

HORNET HERALD

Northern giant hornet stakeholder update



Washington
State Department of
Agriculture

NORTHERN GIANT HORNET STAKEHOLDER UPDATE #23.01 – February 10, 2023



REGISTER FOR WEBINAR FEB. 22 AT 12 P.M. PST

Hunting for hornets season three: a recap of WSDA's hornet activities during the 2022 season

Please [register to attend this free event here.](#)

For the first time since the northern giant hornet (*Vespa mandarinia*) was initially detected in the state, the Washington State Department of Agriculture's (WSDA) Pest Program did not trap or confirm any sightings of the hornets. New this year, WSDA entomologists went overseas to

study the hornet in its native range with collaborating scientists. Learn how researchers are gathering data to aid development of trapping and tracking techniques. Attend this webinar with Dr. Chris Looney to learn how hornet eradication efforts continue and how you can help.

You can also [share the event on social media](#).

STOP BY AT THE 2023 WHATCOM FARM EXPO

WSDA will have a booth at the free Whatcom Farm Expo on Saturday March 4, 2023 from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Stop by the booth to learn all about hornets and plant pests, and to see specimens. You can even take home a temporary hornet tattoo. [Learn more about the event here](#).



USDA-APHIS HOSTS NORTHERN GIANT HORNET MEETING

The United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA APHIS) hosted a multi-agency meeting to review 2022 and discuss 2023 season plans. The group discussed survey plans and outreach efforts to use during the 2023 season. During the meeting, participants also reported on current research efforts by APHIS, WSDA, USDA's Agricultural Research Service, academia, and planned future research to support NGH eradication.

NEW DETECTIONS

WSDA did not detect hornets in 2022. However, the hornet is not yet considered eradicated. Federal guidelines require three consecutive years without a confirmed detection to declare the hornets eradicated.

“While not detecting any hornets this year is promising, the work to ensure they are eradicated is not over yet,” Sven Spichiger, WSDA managing entomologist, said. “Research to develop a better trap continues and public reports – which account for half of all confirmed detections – remain critical.”

If you missed the latest press conference, you can [watch it on YouTube here](#).

Update from Canada

British Columbia had no new detections in 2022. They plan to begin trapping later this spring, and will again appeal to the public for their participation to report sightings.

STAY CONNECTED

WSDA is dedicated to working with the public to provide information on northern giant hornets.

- View [past news releases, blogs, and Pest Program updates](#) about northern giant hornet.
- Join the [northern giant hornet Facebook group](#).
- Join the [Pest Program email listserv](#).
- Follow WSDA on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#), and [Twitter](#).